

MISSION FIELD.

THREE FAITHFUL MISSIONARIES.

(Continued.)

In a moment she became calm. She addressed the picture in a most affectionate tone, "Oh dear lady, your son the Priest led my son along the way to God. Both are now with Jesus, with God. It is bitter to us, to you lady, and to me, but it is sweet to them. My heart is broken, but it is all well with them, all grief stays on earth, none gets into heaven. They are with Jesus. They have no pain, they feel no cold, they see no wreck, they see God. Yes, all is well with them. Dear lady, you look older than I am, but it may be God's will that I shall see my son with the bright light upon him before you see your son near Jesus. But you will see him, because the mother of so holy a Priest must be good." The Bishop adds, "This poor Indian woman seemed to me like a messenger from heaven, and I found comfort in her simplicity and faith."

Of the last of these three faithful servants of God, James Colbeck who died in Barmah, in March, 1888, we have less to say, though he is in no way inferior to the other two; but particulars of his death have not been published. He is best known by his courage and devotion at the time when King Theebaw was exercising his cruelties on his unfortunate subjects.

Mr. Colbeck at first refused to leave his converts, but when the British Resident insisted, pointing out that if he lost his life, vengeance must be taken for him, he consented to go, but first made arrangements for conveying all his converts who were in danger out of the country. This he effected by means of various ingenious disguises. When the country came under British rule, Mr. Colbeck immediately returned, recovered the Church School and Clergy house (which had been built by a former king, and used for other purposes by Theebaw), reopened the Mission, and had the joy of welcoming many converts from heathenism into the fold of Christ.

On Dec. 13th he wrote from Mandalay, "There is undoubtedly a movement going on, praise to God for it, which is stirring the Burmans far and wide. Thirty one catechumens were approved and baptized before a crowded congregation on Christmas Eve." Ten days later, "Blessings upon blessings. Forty five baptisms, and we must begin a new large class in preparation for the next baptisms. Is not all this wonderful among the dry bones of Burman Buddhism? Send more men to gather in the ripening harvest. I am in my fifteenth year of continuous service, and would like to go home for a time, but I cannot leave till the Mission staff is strengthened." He did go home, but not to England. On March 5th, he went like Mr. Sheldon to minister to the souls and bodies of some of his flock at a distance from Mandalay, and died

of fever. Two of his brothers had been won by his example to give themselves to Mission labours, and one is now carrying on his work at Mandalay.

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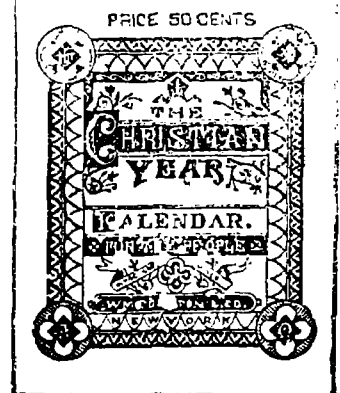
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